

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

CHAMBERS OF
THE CHIEF JUSTICE

March 1, 2004

The Honorable John Conyers, Jr.
Ranking Minority Member
Committee on the Judiciary
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Conyers:

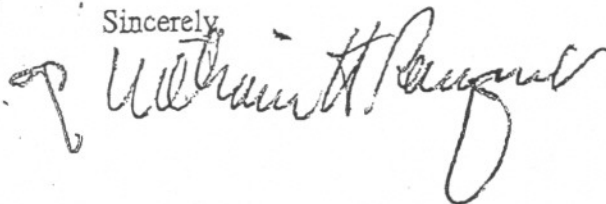
Your letter to me of January 30 requests that the Court consider the development of a formal procedure for reviewing the recusal decisions of Supreme Court Justices. Since you wrote that letter, one of the parties in the case of *Cheney v. District Court* has filed a formal motion to recuse Justice Scalia. The Court has entered the following order in that case:

"03-475, *Cheney v. District Court*.

In accordance with its historic practice, the Court refers the motion to Justice Scalia."

In view of the fact that not only the case itself, but the motion to recuse, is presently pending, I believe it would be inappropriate for me to attempt an answer to your question at this time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William H. Rehnquist". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. To the left of the signature is a small, stylized mark that looks like a checkmark or a flourish.